



C Y C L E S .

1974.

A film by Jordan Belson and Stephen Beck.
Made with a grant from The American Film
Institute, in cooperation with The National
Center for Experiments in Television.

11 minutes, color. Sale \$160. Rent \$15.

CYCLES utilizes ideographic glyphs in declaring
the cyclic principle.

(OVER)

Stephen Beck

The film CYCLES operates on many levels:

Technically it draws together film and video in a
totally convincing manner, employing the best qual-
ities of both, fusing them in an amalgam that over-
comes any distinction between the two.

As an example of the further development of the
newly emerging audio-visual language (currently
called "structuralist" by some scholars) CYCLES
speaks with an eloquence expressed in an unprecedented
mix of internal and external imagery (imagery.)

Compositionally, the film derives added force by
pursuing a structural order identical to its
thematic subject...cycles, an underlying principle
behind all phenomena.

Jordan Belson

"Man is an enmeshed, integral part of life on earth
and the universe, he is linked to the cosmos via his
bioplasmic body and reacts to changes in the planets
as well as to the moods and illnesses of others, to
thought, emotion, sound, light, color, magnetic fields,
the seasons, cycles of the moon, tides, thunder-
storms, strong winds, and even levels of noise. If
there is a change in the universe and environment, a
resonance is produced in the vital energy of the human
body which in turn affects the physical body."
(The Secret Life of Plants)

"...time is rhythmic—the heart beats, the respiration
goes in and out; time is cyclical."
(The Parable of the Beast)

"This is, then, a story without beginning or end since
Self breathes out and in, loses itself and finds itself,
for always and always, and these periods are sometimes
known as its days and nights..."
(Alan Watts: The Basic Myth)